

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 543

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Colonel Roger Dean Ingvalson of Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Colonel Roger Dean Ingvalson; and

WHEREAS, a decorated veteran and an exemplary public servant, Colonel Ingvalson worked assiduously to preserve American values and improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, after years of heroic service, he retired as a Colonel from the United States Air Force, having earned the respect of his fellow servicemen and superiors alike for his commitment to his community and his country; and

WHEREAS, while on a mission in North Vietnam on May 28, 1968, Colonel Ingvalson's plane was shot down, a crash he miraculously survived but which led to his capture and confinement as a prisoner of war; and

WHEREAS, upon his release and return home, his valiant acts of heroism were honored with the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Prisoner of War Medal; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ingvalson relied on his experience as a prisoner of war to begin the Chattanooga Prison Ministries, now Prison Prevention Ministries, in order to bring hope, purpose, and redemption to the lives of prison inmates; and

WHEREAS, an active and devout Christian throughout his life, he infused his work with his faith in God and a love for his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, throughout his service overseas, Colonel Ingvalson remained deeply devoted to his family back home; tragically, his wife, Jackie, died while Colonel Ingvalson was

being held prisoner; and upon his release and return to the States, Roger Ingvalson married the widow of Wayne Fullam, his former wingman and best friend, with whom he raised his son, Craig, and three step-sons; and

WHEREAS, he will be greatly missed by his wife, Booncy, children, grandchildren, and a host of family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Roger Ingvalson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Colonel Roger Dean Ingvalson, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Colonel Ingvalson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.